

FBI File (partial): Dashiell Hammett

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U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

April 10, 2018

MR. RUSS KICK
POST OFFICE BOX 36914
TUCSON, AZ 85740

FOIPA REQUEST NO.: 1396068-000
SUBJECT: HAMMETT, DASHIELL
(PREPROCESSED MATERIAL)

Dear Mr. Kick:

Records responsive to your request were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Enclosed are 31 pages of previously processed documents and a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions. This release is being provided to you at no charge.

Documents or information referred to other Government agencies were not included in this release.

A search of the Central Records System maintained at FBI Headquarters indicated that records potentially responsive to the FOIA have been sent to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Since these records were not reviewed, it is not known if they are actually responsive to the FOIA.

If you wish to review these potentially responsive records, send your request to NARA at the following address using file number 100-HQ-14499 as a reference:

National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Please be advised that additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your information needs for this request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail or fax to – Work Process Unit, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, fax number (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
NEW YORK

TITLE OF CASE

SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT

DATE

5/31/57

INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD

4/5; 5/20, 21, 23/57

REPORT MADE BY

WILLIAM BROWN (A)

CHARACTER OF CASE

ASCERTAINING FINANCIAL ABILITY

SYNOPSIS:

AUSA McMAHON, SDNY, requested investigation to ascertain debtor's ability to pay \$140,795.96 tax liability. Pertinent information furnished by HAMMETT in Examination in Supplementary Proceedings, 3/26/57, set out. Charge accounts maintained by HAMMETT and judgments against him enumerated. No record of accounts for HAMMETT or [redacted] County Trust Co., Westchester County, or National Bank of Westchester, Bedford Hills, NY.

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2 - Bureau

1 - USA, SDNY

2 - New York (93-1210)

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

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EX-108

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STAT SECT

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THIS REPORT IS LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI, AND NEITHER IT NOR ITS CONTENTS ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE YOUR AGENCY.

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (93-15040)

DATE: 9/4/59

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (93-1210)

SUBJECT: SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT
AFA

Records of the claims Unit, SDNY, as reviewed
on 9/2/59, by SAA [redacted] reflect that cap-
tioned case was closed as uncollectible as of 5/12/59.
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EX-135

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2 - Bureau (93-15040)
1 - New York (93-1210)

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NY 93-1210

income tax agencies. He stated that his income for the past year had been somewhere around \$30, from an investment in the play "Death of a Salesman." He stated that he has been living on loans from friends since December, 1951, when he got out of jail.

He stated that he owns no stocks, bonds or other securities, and receives no pensions of any kind. According to HAMMETT, he holds no mortgages, has no insurance policies of any type, and is not presently engaged in any business venture either actively or passively. He explained that he had a book which he had started some years ago, but he had done nothing for the past couple of years. This book is entitled "Tulip," and is the only book on which he is presently working.

He explained that some years ago he had had a couple of radio shows, and had had three at one time, but the last of them, "The Fat Man," went off the air sometime between July and December, 1951, while he was in jail.

HAMMETT noted that the royalties to which he was entitled would normally come to him through his agent, The Music Corporation of America, or through Regis Radio. Also from ALFRED A. KNOPP, a publisher. The Music Corporation of America is still his agent, and he has had no other agent in the past ten years. The last time he received any remuneration from any of the above sources was approximately in 1951 or 1952.

HAMMETT stated that he owned no car, and that his personal property consisted only of the majority of the furniture contained in the four room gate cottage in which he presently resides. He stated that he is not aware of being the beneficiary under any will.

He stated that the present obligations which he can recall are one for about \$300 to the Burrell Clipping Bureau, White Plains, New York; to Bernard Rice, Associates, his accountant, for about \$1,000; to the federal government; and New York State in the amount of \$15,000 or \$16,000.

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HAMMETT stated he has never been in bankruptcy and does not know of any garnishee proceedings against him. His last bank account was at the Amalgamated Bank, Union Square, New York. He has not transferred any monies or properties to anyone in the past five years. He has making payments to any of his present creditors. He has no obligations to his former wife as a result of their divorce.

According to the report of the Examination, the government made an application to direct HAMMETT to fully disclose the identity of all persons to whom he is obligated, including those making loans to him for his present subsistence. This application was denied by United States District Judge NOONAN.

HAMMETT knew of no monies owed to him. He explained that he had no reason to anticipate any change in his financial position. HAMMETT stated that he has had no other occupation than that of a writer since 1928. He gave his date of birth as May 27, 1894.

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as furnished by [redacted] to SE [redacted] on May 21, 1957, contained the following pertinent information:

DASHIELL HAMMETT has resided at 28 West 10th Street, New York City, the Hotel's Plaza and New York (at the home of [redacted] a playwright), Lombardy, New York City, on Cove Road, Huntington, Long Island, and in Santa Monica, California. His occupation is listed as an author and his bank is the Amalgamated Bank. He has charge accounts with the following:

Brooks Brothers
346 Madison Avenue, New York City

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A. Sulka and Company
661 5th Avenue, New York City

Tripler and Company
366 Madison Avenue, New York City

Bloomingdale's
59th Street, New York City

Abercrombie and Fitch
360 Madison Avenue, New York City

Finchley, Incorporated
564 5th Avenue, New York City

Holliday Book Shop
49 East 49th Street, New York City

Hotel Pierre
2 East 61st Street, New York City

Brentano's Book Stores
1 West 47th Street, New York City

McCutcheons
609 5th Avenue, New York City

The files contain the following record of litigations:

June 5, 1939
a judgment by Walter G. McCarty
Corporation for \$5,286. This was
January 13, 1956
satisfied or record on May 18, 1942
and has been disputed.

Federal tax lien filed in Manhattan
on HAMMETT, care of Bernard Reis and
Company, 10 East 40th Street, for
\$7,340.

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March 7, 1955

Judgment filed New York County in favor of State Tax Commission for \$496.83.

August 1, 1956

Federal tax lien filed in Manhattan for \$3,039.57 under #F4218.

April 2, 1957

Judgment filed in Westchester County in favor of the United States Government for \$140,747.96.

May 7, 1956

Judgment filed in Westchester County in favor of Attorney S. H. EARISH for \$316.95.

On May 21, 1957, [redacted] Yorktown Office, County Trust Company, Yorktown Heights, New York, advised after a check of the Central Files of the bank located at White Plains, New York, that there is no record either past or present of any transactions by the bank with HAMMETT or [redacted] stated that both individuals are unknown to him.

[redacted] Bedford Hills Office of the National Bank of Westchester, Bedford Hills, New York, advised on May 21, 1957, that SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT and [redacted] do not have accounts at his bank and are not known to him.

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LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

1. Will contact the following and ascertain money which may have been earned or received by HAMMETT:

Music Corporation of America

Regis Radio

2. Will at the Amalgamated Bank, Union Square, New York, ascertain the status of accounts which HAMMETT may have at that bank.

3. Will locate and interview or her attorney, S. M. BARISH, for details of the transaction which prompted their filing of a judgment against HAMMETT on May 7, 1956.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 7/22/57	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/11, 24; 7/3, 5
TITLE OF CASE SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT		REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM BROWN (A)	CHARACTER OF CASE ASCERTAINING FINANCIAL ABIL

Music Corporation of America holding in escrow for NY State Tax Commission royalties of \$227.70. Undetermined amount being held in escrow by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., Publishers. HAMMETT has made no earnings through Radio Radio Corporation since about 1952, and has no present prospects of such earnings in future. HAMMETT party in civil suit with Warner Brothers involving copyright dispute in which further litigation anticipated. Winter, 1956, catalogue of JSSS listed HAMMETT as "Instructor Fiction Writing." HAMMETT in February, 1957, paid clothing store bill by personal

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

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Bureau (93-15246)
USA, SDNY (AUSA DANIEL F. MC HANON)
New York (93-1210)

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[Handwritten text at bottom]

NY 93-1219

Money order check issued by
79th Street and Madison Avenue
Branch, Chase Manhattan Bank.
Description of HAMMETT set
out.

DETAILS:

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On July 3, 1957, [redacted] of the Literary Department, Music Corporation of America, 593 Madison Avenue, New York City, advised SA WILLIAM BROWN that she had been the individual who had represented her organization in their dealings with HAMMETT. She stated that she has not seen him in four or five years and that attempts made by her to correspond with him had been ignored. She stated that royalties amounting to \$227.76 have been held in escrow since 1956, for the New York State Tax Commission. She explained that the last correspondence from the State Tax Commission had been in the form of a third party order dated March 31, 1955 and calling for the holding in escrow of all monies earned by HAMMETT.

[redacted] Alfred A. Knopf, Incorporated, 501 Madison Avenue, New York City, on July 3, 1957, advised that his company has published the following five books written by HAMMETT:

- "The Dain Curse"
- "Red Harvest"
- "The Glass Key"

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"The Maltese Falcon"

"The Thin Man"

He explained that recent earnings of HAMMETT had accrued from reprints and foreign sales of the above books. [redacted] mentioned that all earnings of HAMMETT are being held in escrow. He was not sure whether they were being held in escrow for the State of Federal Governments. He stated that it would take him about a week to accumulate data on the amounts previously and presently being held in escrow. He stated that he would also ascertain the identity of the government for which these monies were being held in escrow.

[redacted] advised that HAMMETT had been involved in a law suit with Warner Brothers within the past few years but could furnish no additional information on the litigation.

On July 8, 1957, [redacted] Certified Public Accountants, Aaron Fuchs and Company, 60 West 42nd Street, New York City, advised SA WILLIAM BROWN that his organization had acted as accountants for the Regis Radio Corporation of the same address. He explained that Regis had been inactive since 1952 or 1953, although the corporation still exists. He explained that the Regis Corporation managed radio shows at one time and paid DASHIELL HAMMETT royalties for the use of his characters. According to [redacted] HAMMETT has had no earnings through Regis since about 1952 and there is no present prospect of his receiving money in the future.

[redacted] Assistant Secretary and

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[redacted] Legal Department, Warner Brothers, Incorporated, 321 West 44th Street, advised on July 8, 1957, that Warner Brothers has had no financial transactions with HAMMETT in the past five years and that there is no present indication that he will receive future earnings from the company. They stated that HAMMETT and the Columbia Broadcasting System had been sued by Warner Brothers as the result of a copyright dispute. Warner Brothers had hoped to recover in excess of \$1,000,000 as a result of the suit, but a decision was rendered in favor of the Columbia Broadcasting System and HAMMETT, and in about 1950 or 1951, the Supreme Court had refused to review the case. [redacted] stated that some further litigation in the future is expected in this matter.

[redacted] suggested that Associated Artists Productions, Incorporated and Metro Goldwyn Mayer (Loews, Incorporated) be contacted since they had purchased from Warners rights to a catalogue of pictures. If some of these pictures were based on characters or on stories of HAMMETT's some earnings might accrue to him as a result of the televising of these movies, according to [redacted].

The catalogues of the Jefferson School of Social Science (JSSS), New York City, have listed DASHIELL HAMMETT as an instructor in fiction writing and an official member of the Board of Trustees for the years 1950 through 1955. The Winter, 1956, Catalogue listed DASHIELL HAMMETT as "Instructor, Fiction Writing."

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The JSSS has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] Finchley, Incorporated, 564 Fifth Avenue, New York City, advised on June 11, 1957, that a search of her records reflects no active or inactive accounts for HAMMETT, and he is not included on the mailing list of the store.

On July 3, 1957, [redacted] Brooks Brothers, 346 Madison Avenue, New York City, disclosed that HAMMETT had opened an account with the store in 1947 and had reopened it in January, 1956. On January 9, 1956, he had made a purchase in the amount of \$84.25, which he had paid a short time later. The account has not been used since that time.

[redacted] Credit Department, Abercrombie and Fitch, 360 Madison Avenue, New York City, advised on July 3, 1957, that HAMMETT had opened an account with the store prior to 1946. He made a purchase in the amount of \$159.66 in January, 1957, which he paid for in February of that year.

The Recordak record of the check used by HAMMETT in settling his account reflected the following:

A personal Money Order check number CM 5366 for \$159.66 was utilized. The check was dated February 1, 1957, was signed D. HAMMETT, Katonah, New York and was issued by Branch 34 of the Chase Manhattan Bank.

[redacted] The credit information made available by reflected that the Regis Radio Corporation, 60

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East 42nd Street, New York City, was acting as agent for HAMMETT, that Metro Goldwyn Mayer has the rights to "The Thin Man" and other novels of HAMMETT, and that HAMMETT had written "City Streets" for [redacted] by the Columbia Broadcasting System and the program the Fat Man had been broadcast. Both of these programs had been based on writings and characters of HAMMETT's.

[redacted] and Company, 661 5th Avenue, New York City, advised that HAMMETT had maintained an account at his establishment, which account was last used in January, 1949. The account has been inactive since that time. McCutcheons, 609 Fifth Avenue, New York City, advised on July 8, 1957, that she could find no record of an account for HAMMETT in the past seven years.

[redacted] Book Stores, 1 West 47th Street, New York City, on July 8, 1957, disclosed that HAMMETT's account had last been utilized for a purchase of \$10.30 in June, 1953, which amount had been paid in December, 1953. This account is now carried in an inactive status.

[redacted] Credit Office, F.R. Tripler and Company, 366 Madison Avenue, New York City, advised that her records carry an inactive account for HAMMETT which has not been used for at least five years.

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The following is a description of HAMMETT:

Name	SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	May 27, 1894
Place of Birth	St. Mary's County, Maryland
Residence	In Care of Dr. SAMUEL ROSEN Orchard Hill Road Katonah, New York
Employment	Writer at residence
Height	6 feet 1 3/4 inches
Weight	141 pounds
Complexion	Medium
Hair	Grey
Eyes	Brown
FBI Number	798979A

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The description of HAMMETT was obtained from the files of the New York Office of the FBI.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At White Plains, New York

Will through S.N. BARISH, Attorney, 175 Main Street, obtain details of the transactions which prompted their filing of a judgment against HAMMETT on May 7, 1956.

At New York, New York

1. Will at the Amalgamated Bank, Union Square, New York, ascertain the status of accounts which HAMMETT may have at that bank.

2. Will recontact [redacted] Alfred A. Knopf, Incorporated, 501 Madison Avenue and obtain information concerning the monies being held in escrow by that company.

3. Will at the Chase Manhattan Bank, 79th Street and Madison Avenue, NYC, ascertain if HAMMETT has had financial transactions with that bank.

4. Will contact the following organizations to ascertain if HAMMETT has received any earnings from them as a result of their use of his writings:

Associated Artists Productions, Incorporated.
Metro Goldwyn Mayer (Loews, Incorporated)

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LEADS CONT'D

Columbia Broadcasting System
American Broadcasting Company

REFERENCE

Report of SA WILLIAM BROWN (A) at NY dated
5/31/57.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 9/24/57
Title of Case SAMUEL DASHTELL HAMMETT		Investigative Period 7/17; 8/14, 22, 23; 9,
		Report made by WILLIAM BROWN (A)
		CHARACTER OF CASE ASCERTAINING FINANCIAL ABILITY

Synopsis:

HAMMETT directed to pay \$5.00 a week as result of judgement entered Westchester County, but has not made any payment to date. \$1717.70 now being held in escrow under Federal Tax lien by Alfred A. Knopf, Incorporated, NYC, publishers. No earnings past three years from Columbia Broadcasting System, Incorporated, and no payments by Loews, Incorporated, since 1944. No payments to HAMMETT made by American Broadcasting Corporation in past six years and no earnings by debtor through Associated Artists Productions Incorporated, NYC.

DETAILS

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Law, 175 Main Street, White Plains, New York, Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em;">3</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> SEP 26 1957 RECORDED - 99 </div>
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- 2 - Bureau (93-15040)
- 1 - USA, SDNY (AUSA DANIEL F. MC MAHON)
- 2 - New York (93-1210)

93-15040-3

OCT 4 1957

FBI - NEW YORK

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1954

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on July 17, 1957, advised that he is the attorney for [redacted] of 5 King Street, Pleasantville, New York. He [redacted] service to whom HAMMETT had become indebted as a result of services performed. He stated that as a result of a suit filed against HAMMETT by [redacted] a judgement in the amount of approximately \$300.00 had been obtained in Westchester County about 1 1/2 years ago. The judge, in this judgement, directed that HAMMETT make payments of a week, but no payment has been made on the indebtedness date.

BARISH stated that the limited inquiry which has made to ascertain HAMMETT's financial status has convinced him that HAMMETT is practically destitute.

On July 17, 1957, [redacted] Alfred A. Knopf, Incorporated, 501 Madison Avenue, New York City, advised SA WILLIAM BRO that the records of his company indicate that the following disposition was made of HAMMETT's earnings:

On August 14, 1957, [redacted] secretary to [redacted] of Business Affairs, Columbia Broadcasting System, Incorporated, 485 Madison Avenue, New York City, advised that a search of the records of the organization indicated that HAMMETT had earned no monies from the company during

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NY 93-1310

the past three years. [redacted] indicated that future earnings by HAMMETT were not contemplated.

Incorporated, 1540 Broadway, New York City, advised SA WILL BROWN on August 14, 1957, that no payments had been made by his organization to DASHIELL HAMMETT since 1944, when the last material had been purchased from him. He explained that Eoews is presently making a "Thin Man" series for viewing on television, but that under previous rights they have the privilege of using HAMMETT's material without additional payments.

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[redacted] American Broadcasting Corporation, 30 West 60th Street, New York City, on August 22, 1957, advised SA WILLIAM BROWN that there is no records of payments made to HAMMETT in past six years. She knew of no indication that HAMMETT would have future earnings with the corporation.

On September 6, 1957, [redacted] Associated Artists Productions Incorporated, 345 Madison Avenue, New York City, explained that his company had, on July 26, 1956, purchased a large volume of films produced by Warner Brothers, prior to January 1, 1950. These films were bought without encumbrances by Associated and any payments made as a result of copyrights, would, if necessary be made by Warner Brothers. He stated that no payments had been made to HAMMETT by Associated.

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOV

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (93-15040)

FROM

SAG, NEW YORK (93-1210)

SUBJECT

SAMUEL DASHLELL HAMMETT
AFA

DATE: 8/21

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the report of SA WILLIAM BROWN, dated and captioned as above, at New York, and two copies of a blank memo prepared in this matter.

INFORMANTS

The confidential sources utilized in the enclosed memo are identified below in the order they were utilized:

[Redacted] City, who furnished the information to SA WILLIAM BROWN, on 8/22/57.

[Redacted] who furnished the information to SA WILLIAM BROWN on 8/23/57.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will contact the following organizations with whom HAMMETT has allegedly had financial transactions:
Bloomingdales, 59th Street, New York City.
Holliday Book Shop, 49 East 49th Street, New York City.
Hotel Pierre, 2 East 61st Street, New York City.
Hotel Plaza, 5th Avenue and 59th Street, New York City.
Hotel Lombardy, 111 East 56th Street, New York City.

Will search the United States Cumulative Book Index, to ascertain the publishers of HAMMETT's short stories or other writings.

REFERENCE

44-14857-4

Bureau (93-15040)
New York (93-1210) (Enc. 4)

RECORDED - 99

7/22/57 at

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
New York, New York
September 24, 1957

Samuel Dashiell Hammett

A confidential source advised that Hammett has not maintained an account at the 79th Street and Madison Avenue, New York City, Branch of the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City. The source advised that there would be no record maintained for Hammett as the result of his purchase of a personal money order from that branch. This is true because the customer buying such a money order pays cash for it and does not have to identify himself. The teller merely accepts the cash and cuts in the amount on the money order form and turns it over to the customer who fills in the remainder of the form by himself.

On August 23, 1957, a confidential source advised that Hammett has had no account and no other transactions with the Amalgamated Bank of New York, 15 Union Square, New York City, since he closed his account with that organization on May 7, 1952.

The information furnished by the above sources is not to be made public except in the usual proceeding following the issuance of a subpoena.

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cp
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 11/29/57	Investigative Period 10/31; 11/14, 15
Type of Case SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> (A)	
		Character of Case ASCERTAINING FINANCIAL ABI	

Cumulative Book Index reflects captioned debtor has not had a book published since, 1950. AUSA, SDNY, desires no additional investigation at the present time.

- P* -

DETAILS:

[redacted] Holiday Book Shop, 119 East 54th Street, New York City, advised SAA [redacted] that captioned debtor opened an account with that store on June 26, 1947, and was removed from the Holiday Book Shop mailing list on January 14, 1948, due to the inactivity of the account. [redacted] advised that the Holiday Book Shop has had no transactions with captioned debtor, since the above mentioned period.

<p><i>[Signature]</i> Special Agent in Charge</p> <p>Typed name: _____</p> <p>② Bureau (93-13040) 1-USA, SDNY (Att: AUSA GINSBARE) 2-New York (93-1210)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Do not write in spaces below</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> DEC 3 1957 </div>
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Dec 2 1957
 RECEIVED
 DEC 17 1957
 93-13040-5

NY 93-1210

[redacted] b6
[redacted] b7C
Bloomingdares, Lexington Avenue and 59th Street, New York City, advised on November 14, 1957, that her files contain no record of any type account, past or present, for captioned debtor.

[redacted]
Plaza Hotel, Fifth Avenue and 59th Street, New York City, advised on November 14, 1957, that captioned debtor has not registered at the Plaza Hotel since October 15, 1957, and does not have an outstanding account with the hotel.

[redacted]
Hotel Pierre, 2 East 61st Street, New York City, advised that according to his records, captioned debtor has not registered at the Hotel Pierre, since September 29, 1932, at which time HARRY left the hotel without paying his bill. [redacted] stated that his records did not reflect whether or not HARRY paid this bill at a later date.

[redacted]
East 56th Street, New York City, Paymaster, Hotel Lombardy, 111 1957, that captioned debtor has not registered at the Hotel Lombardy for over ten years, and that he is not presently indebted to the hotel.

The Cumulative Book Index, as reviewed on November 15, 1957, at the New York Public Library, reflected that captioned has not had a book published since 1950, when he had a book entitled, "Omnibus", published in England. The company which published this book, was known as Cassell, and the book sold for 17 shillings six pence.

Assistant United States Attorney RENE CINSBERG, Southern District of New York, advised on November 20, 1957, that, after a review of instant case, she desires no additional investigation at the present time.

- Pk -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (93-15040)

DATE: 11/29/57

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (93-1210)

SUBJECT: SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT
APA

b6
b7C

Enclosed herewith are 2 copies of the report of SA [redacted] at NY, dated and captioned as above.

LE DS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will report any action taken in this case by
ALISA GINSBERG, SDNY.

REFERENCE

Report of SAA WILLEN BROWN, 9/24/57, at NY.

RECORDED - 75

93-15040-6
23 DEC 3 1957

2-Bureau (Encl. 2) (93-15040)
2-New York (93-1210)

ESD:hel
(4)

ENCLOSURE

93-15040-6

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Field Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 4/7/58	Investigative Period 3/27/58
Title of Case SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> (A)	
		Character of Case ASCERTAINING FINANCIAL ABILITY	

AUSA, SDNY, desires no additional investigation.

- P* -

DETAILS

Assistant United States Attorney MYRA SCHUBIN, Southern District of New York, advised SAA on March 27, 1958, that she desired no additional investigation in captioned matter at the present time.

- P* -

Approved: <i>EJH</i> Copies made:	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
② - Bureau (93-15040) 1 - USA, SDNY (Att: AUSA M. SCHUBIN) 2 - New York (93-1210)		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: monospace;">93-15040-17</div>	REC-83 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">APR 9 1958</div>

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 STAT SECT.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (93-15040)

DATE 4/7/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (93-1210)

SUBJECT: SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT
AFA

Enclosed herewith are two copies of the report
of SAA [redacted] at NY, dated and captioned as above

REFERENCE

Report of SAA [redacted], 11/29/57, at NY.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will report any action taken in this case by
AUSA SCHUBIN, SDNY.

ENCLOSURE 136

- 2 - Bureau (93-15040) (Encls. 2)
- 2 - New York (93-1210)

GSO:kab
(4)

REC-83

93-15040-8

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NEW YORK CASE	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 9/19/58	Investigative Period 9/16/58
SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	(A)
		CHARACTER OF CASE ASCERTAINING FINANCIAL ABIL	

AUSA, SDNY, desires no additional investigation.

DETAILS

- P* -

Assistant United States Attorney MARGUERITE de SMET, Southern District of New York, advised SAA [redacted] on September 16, 1958, that she desires no additional investigation in captioned matter at the present time.

- P* -

HGT

Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below		
1 - Bureau (93-15040) 1 - USA, SDNY (168-67) (ATT: AUSA M. de SMET) 2 - New York (93-1210)	23	1034	9
	23 SEP 22 1958		
	REC-9		

66 SEP 25 1958
93-15040

Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (93-15040)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (93-1210)

DATE: 9/19

SUBJECT: SAMUEL DASHIELL HAMMETT
AFA

Enclosed herewith is one copy of the report of SAA [redacted] at NY, dated and captioned as above.

REFERENCE

Report of SAA [redacted] 4/7/58, at NY.

NEW YORK

LEAD

At New York, New York

Will report any action taken in this case by AUSA de SMET, SDNY.

REC-9

93-15040-10

23 SEP 22

- 1 - Bureau (93-15040) (Encl. 1)
- 2 - New York (93-1210)

GSO:dag
(3)

REC-9

66 SEP 25 1958

93-15040 10

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

201 East 69th Street
New York 21, New York
April 27, 1959

Honorable Arthur H. Christy
United States Attorney
Southern District of New York
United States Court House
Foley Square
New York 7, New York

Attention: Charles T. Beeching, Jr.,
Assistant United States Attorney

Re: Samuel Dashiell Hammett
(13867)

My dear Mr. Christy:

This is to confirm a discussion between
Special Agent [redacted] and your Assistant,
Charles T. Beeching, Jr., on April 20, 1959, concerning
captioned matter. Mr. Beeching stated that he
desires no additional investigation in captioned matter
at the present time.

Sincerely yours,

H. G. FOSTER,
Special Agent in Charge

(1) Bureau (93-15040)

EX-101 REG-25

93-15040

66 MAY 5

APR 29 1959

NY 93-1210

DETAILS:

This investigation was predicated upon a letter received from Assistant United States Attorney DANIEL F. McMAHON, Chief, Civil Division, Southern District of New York, under date of March 26, 1957, requesting that an agent be assigned to conduct a financial investigation of the debtor. He explained that a default judgment in the amount of \$140,795.96 for tax deficiencies had been filed on February 28, 1957, against HAMMETT.

On April 5, 1957, Assistant United States Attorney McMAHON was contacted in this regard by SA(A) WILLIAM BROWN. McMAHON made available the files of his office relating to this matter.

The following pertinent information was contained in a report of an Examination in Supplementary Proceedings which was conducted on March 26, 1957, at the United States Court House, Foley Square, New York. HAMMETT lives in the gate cottage located on the estate of [redacted] located at Orchard Hill Road, Katonah, New York. He has lived there for about 4½ years rent free. He is single, having been divorced in 1936, and has no bank accounts or safe deposit vaults or boxes whatsoever. He has no boarders or subtenants living with him and lives alone.

HAMMETT stated he has two children and three grandchildren. His children are [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom reside in California. HAMMETT is not presently employed as the result of a heart attack which he suffered about 1½ years ago resulting in a shortness of breath and complications with his lungs and diaphragm.

He is not presently receiving royalties from any books or literary productions, and has not done so for several years because of tax liens imposed by federal and state

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